

## Message Text

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42

ORIGIN EUR-06

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 FS-01 H-03 /011 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/CAN:EMBROWN:ET

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APPROVED BY EUR:RZSMITH

FSE:MR. MAU (IN DRAFT)

H:MR. SCHNEE (IN DRAFT)

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R 211603Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 143911

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: ENRG, CA

SUBJECT: FUEL OIL TRANSSHIPMENT PROBLEM

1. REP. ROBERT C. MCEWEN OF OGDENSBURG NEW YORK  
(THIRTIETH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT) HAS BROUGHT FOLLOWING  
MATTER TO OUR ATTENTION.

2. FUEL DISTRIBUTORS IN HIS DISTRICT FOR SOME YEARS PAST  
HAVE PURCHASED NUMBER 2 FUEL OIL FROM VENEZUELA SOURCES,  
TAKING DELIVERY VIA CANADIAN ST. LAWRENCE PORT WHERE OIL  
TRANSFERRED FROM DEEP-DRAFT TANKERS TO SMALLER TANKERS FOR  
DELIVERY BY SEAWAY TO DISTRIBUTORS. REP. MCEWEN'S UNDER-  
STANDING IS THAT TRANSFER AT CANADIAN PORT AND ONWARD  
SHIPMENT TO NEW YORK POINTS IS MADE UNDER CUSTOMS BOND  
ARRANGEMENT. DISTRIBUTORS, WHO SHOULD NOW BE BUILDING  
INVENTORIES FOR NEXT HEATING SEASON, INFORM HIM THAT  
CANADIAN AUTHORITIES NO LONGER PERMIT TRANS-SHIPMENT AT  
CANADIAN PORT, NOR ARE THEY WILLING PERMIT TRANSFER OFF-  
SHORE IN CANADIAN WATERS. DISTRIBUTORS ALSO STATE TRADE  
SOURCES ON CANADIAN SIDE OF ST. LAWRENCE RIVER SAY THEIR  
STORAGE TANKS ARE FILLING AND THAT THERE MAY BE PROBLEM  
IN STORING IN CANADA ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES UNDERSTOOD TO BE  
EN ROUTE FROM VENEZUELA.

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3. REP. MCEWEN HAS ASKED CONSTITUENTS PROVIDE MORE

DETAILED INFORMATION WHICH WE WILL SEND WHEN AVAILABLE.  
IN MEANTIME, REQUEST EMBASSY MAKE DISCREET INQUIRIES  
CANADIAN AUTHORITIES (PRESUMABLY DEPARTMENT CUSTOMS AND  
(NEW YORK DISTRIBUTORS HAVE BEEN CAREFUL NOT PUBLICIZE  
SUPPLY DIFFICULTIES BECAUSE OF RISK OF PANIC BUYING.) RUSH

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